

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ian D. McCrury et al.

Confirmation No. 3998

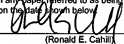
Application No. 10/024,625

Art Unit: 3731

Filed: December 18, 2001

Examiner: Darwin P. Erez

For: SUTURE WELDING SYSTEM AND METHOD

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being filed via EFS-Web on the date shown below.
Dated: April 9, 2009 Signature: 
(Ronald E. Cahill)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB08 and it is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, whichever occurred first, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee (37 CFR 1.97(d)). Applicant(s) have become aware of the following documents, cited in a Japanese Office Action dated January 13, 2009, during the prosecution of JP Published Application No. 2002-365673, which is a foreign counterpart to the above referenced application, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(d) and (e)(1), hereby submit(s) these documents for the Examiner's consideration. These documents are cited on the enclosed PTO

Form SB/08, and a copy of the Office Action and translation and of each document required under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) cited thereon are enclosed as well.


The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56 (b).

The fee due with this filing is being charged via credit card herewith. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 141449, under Order No. 22956-71.

Dated: April 9, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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